

Application No.: 08/821,027

Docket No.: 00-VE22.04RCE1

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-21 and 23-30 are pending in the application. In the Final Office Action, claims 9-21, 23, and 24 are allowed. Further, the Final Office Action has rejected Claims 1, 2, 5-8, and 25-30. Claims 1, 2, and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6,026,087 to Mirashrafi in view of US 5,680,446 to Fleischer III et al. Claims 25-29 are rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Further, the Office Action has objected to Claims 25-29 as containing allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for courtesies extended during a telephone interview with Applicant's representative on July 21, 2004. In the interview, the Examiner indicated that certain amendments to claim 1 would place claim 1, and all claims depending therefrom, in condition for allowance. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate subject matter that the Examiner indicated would render claim 1 allowable.

Claim 25 has been amended to more clearly recite the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention and to overcome the Examiner's rejection under Section 112; no alteration in claim scope is intended thereby.

Applicants have also, in response to the objection in paragraph 2 of the Final Office Action, amended the paragraph of the originally-filed specification starting at page 17, line 24 by changing "*Application Serial No. 08/634,544*" to "*U.S. Patent No. 5,790,548*" at page 18, line 2 of the originally-filed specification.

Application No.: 08/821,027

Docket No.: 00-VE22.04RCE1

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Any fees associated with the filing of this paper should be identified in an accompanying transmittal. However, if any additional fees are required in connection with the filing of this paper, permission is given to charge Deposit Account No. 07-2347. To the extent necessary, a petition for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made, the fee for which should be charged to the above account number.

Dated: August 18, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Joel Wall

Registration No.: 25,648

Verizon Corporate Services Group Inc.

600 Hidden Ridge Drive

Mailcode HQE03H14

Irving, TX 75038

Customer No.: 32127

Telephone: 972-718-4800